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Dominican Tremors Unrest in Hemisphere Rises; So Does Concern Over Subversion Peril

Brazil Seeks Standing Force In OAS Able to Intervene Even in 'Internal' Blow-Ups

A Rundown of Trouble Spots

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WASHINGTON — Shock waves from the Dominican explosion are rattling across the hemisphere, with some curiously contradictory effects.

Leftist agitation, stirred anew by the U.S. intervention in Santo Domingo, is reaching epidemic proportions in some lands. This spreading unrest gives arch-rightists a fresh rationale for attempting repression against the "Communist threat." One result: Heightened danger of new upheavals in countries as disparate as Guatemala, Uruguay, Colombia and Bolivia. (In parts of Bolivia, including outskirts of the capital, La Paz, open fighting raged yesterday between government troops and striking workers. See story on page 32.)

But U.S. policy-makers think other Dominican repercussions could have a stabilizing effect. If the U.S. can come up with a reasonably safe and sound political settlement in Santo Domingo, as now seems possible, they hope distaste for the nature of the U.S. intervention, which has been felt even among friendly Latin nations, may give way to a certain respect for its results. "The use of force, when it works, discourages more communism than it creates," says one U.S. policy-maker confidently.

Awake to Subversion Threat?

Perhaps more important is the possibility that some Latins may come to conclude from the Dominican episode that Communist subversion, whether promoted from Moscow, Peking, or Havana, is indeed a serious danger, and one which the creaky, ritualistic, slow-moving and quarrelsome Organization of American States is now singularly unequipped to meet.

On this last count there's a new, and significant, piece of evidence: An as yet unpublicized proposal from Latin America's largest nation, Brazil, for an urgent study of OAS peace-keeping procedures. This would be undertaken with a view not just to overhaul, but to creation of new techniques and machinery for coping with the sort of Communist-incited insurrection and chaos that can spring so swiftly out of what started, in the Dominican Republic, as a left-wing, but almost certainly

Through its embassies everywhere in the hemisphere, Brazil of late has been mounting a quiet but intense diplomatic campaign aimed at a hurry-up OAS meeting at the foreign ministers' level on the issue of hemisphere security. Specifically, the Brazilians are plugging for creation of an OAS peace-keeping force, of the kind so belatedly mustered for the Dominican affair. Brazil, it is said, would make this force permanent, ready for instant call to action, rather than subject to current recruitment bottlenecks (Brazil itself was obliged by its own laws to engage in three weeks of leisurely parliamentary debate before getting authority to dispatch its contingent to the Dominican Republic, and the Argentines are still kicking the question around).

Intervention Without Invitation

Brazilian envoys are citing the Dominican crisis as conclusive evidence that the OAS lacks the "juridical" wherewithal to move decisively, and quickly enough, in emergencies. They are even advancing the notion—astonishing for a Latin land—that the OAS should empower itself to act in cases which have all the appearance of an internal rumble, if there is sufficient evidence that outside subversive forces are at work. More, than that, say diplomats here, the Brazilian formula would permit OAS intervention without invitation from the government concerned, if circumstances seem to warrant it.

U.S. diplomats report that an overwhelming majority of Latin nations have at least expressed willingness to participate in such an OAS foreign ministers' meeting. The only flat "no," they say, came from Chile, which is perhaps the one Latin nation not now seriously menaced by the threat of leftist or rightist coup. Its government was freely elected last year by a smashing majority over a pro-Red candidate.

The Brazilians apparently would like to summon OAS foreign ministers to Washington this week, though such an early session seems unlikely. Whether things could move that fast under any circumstances is doubtful; earlier in the Dominican blow-up the OAS, acting in more characteristic fashion, postponed for at least 60 days a regularly scheduled foreign ministers meeting, originally planned for this week. The ground for delay was that nobody was ready to talk about overhauling OAS machinery at a time of high crisis.

Action Is Uncertain

Still less certain is whether the OAS would do much of anything to strengthen its peace-keeping powers if it did meet quickly. The members' resistance to "intervention" in any form, even collective, runs deep. Collectivity, moreover, is hard to come by in an alliance of 20 nations as disparate as the Paraguayan dictatorship, the Chilean democracy, a tiny Haiti run by a crackpot despot, and a giant Brazil, now in control of an efficient, if authoritarian, military government.

Nonetheless, even if the OAS foreign ministers don't meet this week, Brazil will stick to its basic objectives of strengthening the organization's ability to intervene. Moreover, some U.S. diplomats sense at least a change in OAS mood, a new awareness that if the OAS doesn't act, others will—either the U.S. under the hardened Dominican doctrine of "no more Cubas," or the United Nations.

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